

A1
CONT
a plurality of communication paths for exchanging the communication information in the operational state of the intermediate interface, the plurality of communication paths combined in communication groups, wherein one or more of the communication paths and each of the communication groups are allocated to the communication channels, and
a separate communication path group allocated to the first protection group combined with the communication paths. --

In the abstract:

Replace the abstract with the following version.

A2
-- A method for managing an intermediate interface of a telecommunication network.
The method includes connecting two network elements for establishing and maintaining subscriber connections of the network, providing links that include transmission channels for exchanging user information, allocating one of the communication channels to a first protection group, exchanging the communication information in the operational state of the intermediate interface via communication paths combined in communication groups, and allocating one or more of the communication paths and each of the communication groups to the communication channels, where the communication paths are combined in a communication path group allocated to the first protection group. --
